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MEMORANDUM

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October 28, 1962

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TO: The Secretary
THROUGH: S/S
FROM: EUR - William R. Tyler
SUBJECT: Implications of a Cuban Settlement for Berlin

The thought occurs to me that the elements in a Cuban settlement which we are prepared to accept could be invoked by Khrushchev as equally applicable to West Berlin: free, demilitarized, guaranteed (by our assurances), UN role, etc. A negotiated settlement of a crisis which has brought the world so close to the brink of general war, will be hailed with such fervor throughout the world that there may be a powerful urge to apply the same prescription to the other most critical issue, which is Berlin. You will have noted the sentence in Khrushchev's message: "Therefore, we must liquidate the breeding grounds where a dangerous situation has been created fraught with serious consequences for the cause of peace." This, of course, is Berlin by another name.

I recommend that we take great care to relate the terms we may agree to and the principles to which we subscribe to achieve a Cuban settlement, to their application, from the point of view of our interests, to future negotiations on Berlin.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR

BB/MW/H 21/18

DATE

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EUR:WRTyler/bm

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